GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:17
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2002
PROVISION OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARD
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India does not have sufficient number of international level sports persons ;

(b) if so , the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether there is lack of sports infrastructure of international standard in the country ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(e) the measures taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to provide the infrastructure facilities of international standard in the country ; and

(f) the funds likely to be spent thereon ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI)

(a) to (f) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.17 FOR 26.2
BY SHRI NARESH PUGLIA REGARDING PROVISION OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARD.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. A large number of socio - economic and cultural factors are responsible for the country not being able to produce sufficient number of international level sports persons . These include low per-capita income and consequently, lack of proper nutrition particularly in the formative years. Severe financial constraints and the enormity of the challenge of sports promotion and development of sports infrastructure across the country are also among the main reasons for the slow development of sports performance in the country. In addition, the ratio of persons participating in competitive sports is low in comparison with those participating in recreational sports - leading to lesser competition and consequently lower performance. Food habits, age of entry into a sports discipline , environment and motivation play a crucial role in deciding the level of performance of a sports person. Besides, sports is yet to be made an integral part of our educational curriculum. All factors mentioned above have affected the level of performance of sports persons in the country.

(c) No, Sir. However, there is scope for developing additional infrastructure of international standard.

(d) Does not arise .

(e) On receipt of viable proposals from the State Governments etc. , financial assistance is provided by the Government of India under the Schemes of Grants for
(i) Creation of Sports Infrastructure ;
(ii) Installation of Synthetic Playing Surfaces : and
(iii) Promotion of Sports in Universities & Colleges for creation of sports infrastructure of international standards . In addition, Sports Authority of India also undertakes creation and upgradation of infrastructure.

(f) During the IXth Plan Period, total expenditure in respect of the above schemes is likely to be approximately Rs.84.00 crores. In addition, Sports Authority of India is currently proposing to undertake major infrastructure projects at various Regional Centres at an estimated cost of approximately Rs.82.00 crores.